

ANALYZING RESULTS FROM THE REMOTE VIEWING PRACTICUM

by Stephen Graf, Ph.D.

Stephen Graf received his doctoral degree in experimental psychology from Ohio State University and has been interested throughout his career in the use and extension of standard change charts. He has thirty-five years of experience in teaching college students and is the author of three college textbooks. Dr. Graf conducts workshops nationwide on using fluency tools in training. He has been a member of the Professional Division since 1990, has participated in our Dolphin Energy Club distant healing group since its inception, and recently took part in TMI's first Remote Viewing Practicum—led by F. Holmes "Skip" Atwater and Carol Sabick.

During the Remote Viewing Practicum conducted at The Monroe Institute during the week of September 28 to October 4, twenty-four double-blind, independently judged, remote-viewing trials were conducted "for the record" as an integral part of the educational program.

The viewer-monitor-judge exercise was well suited to statistical analysis. In this exercise, twenty-three participants (plus trainer Carol Sabick) were divided into eight teams of three each. One person in each team was assigned the task of viewer, monitor, or judge for round one. In round two, roles switched within the teams, and in round three, roles switched again so that each person served once in each role.

The targets were twenty-four pictured locations (different for each of the twenty-four trials) sealed within opaque envelopes. Viewers and monitors from each team were instructed to "describe the location in the envelope at the time the picture was taken." The monitor tried to follow guidelines set up for monitors to help the viewer access the target information, all the while being blind to the target. The judge received the descriptions and sketches of the target provided by the viewer and monitor.

Upon completion of the remote viewing, each judge took these descriptions and sketches—along with the sealed envelope—to Atwater, who provided a sheet of four photos (a different set was used for each of the twenty-four trials). One of the photos matched the target; the other three were shams. The judges, who were not otherwise involved with the remote-viewing process, were to use the "police lineup" method to compare qualitative descriptions and sketches provided by the viewers and monitors with the four locations pictured. The judges were asked to score first-, second-, third-, and fourth-place matches.

Once the decision was made, the opaque envelope was opened to reveal the target photo. Judges were instructed to tell the monitors and viewers if they were able to first-place match

their descriptions to the target photo or not. The judges were not allowed to provide information about the nontarget photos. Also, groups were instructed not to discuss their targets with other groups. The aim was for a judge to match the target with a first-place rank. The viewer-monitor-judge exercise described above allowed the use of a binomial test to calculate the odds against the results obtained occurring by chance. Binomial distribution probabilities were as follows:

- First round - eight trials; two first-place matches (chance expectation)
- Second round - eight trials; five first-place matches ($p=0.027$ or about one chance in 36 of getting five or more first-place matches)
- Third round - eight trials; six first-place matches ($p=0.0042$ or about one chance in 240 of getting six or more first-place matches)
- Overall - twenty-four trials; thirteen first-place matches ($p=0.0021$ or about one chance in 480 of getting thirteen or more first-place matches)

As Atwater mentioned at the beginning of the practicum, he can teach participants about remote viewing but he can't train them to become expert remote viewers within the week. Experiencing the feedback possible with the kinds of targets used during the week, however, allows one to gauge the benefits that practice would produce if one desires to further develop one's remote-viewing skills.

[Note: These significant positive results suggest the presence of psychic functioning but may not really represent remote viewing as classically defined. The positive matches were made by independent judges who may have used their own form of psychic functioning to develop first-place matches. The binomial tests applied were developed by Jack Auman.]

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